

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A welding unit ~~(27)~~ including a welding apparatus ~~(1)~~ with a welding torch unit ~~(29)~~ connectable thereto via a hose pack ~~(23, 28)~~, wherein at least one control device ~~(4)~~ and ~~a~~ only one welding current source ~~(2)~~ to supply the welding torch unit with energy are arranged in the welding apparatus ~~(1)~~, wherein the welding torch unit ~~(29)~~ is formed by at least first and second separate welding torches ~~(10, 35)~~, wherein the first welding torch ~~(10)~~ has a first welding wire and is configured to carry out a first cold-metal transfer welding process and the second welding torch ~~(35)~~ has a second welding wire and is configured to carry out a second cold-metal transfer welding process with a forward-backward movement of the second welding wire ~~(32)~~, wherein said current source is alternately connected with one of the first and second welding torches, and wherein a device for synchronizing the first and second welding processes carried out by the first and second

welding torches ~~(10, 35)~~ is provided; ~~or wherein the first welding torch (10) comprises a laser unit (76) which, in the welding torch unit (29), is combined with the second welding torch (35) for the cold metal transfer welding process.~~

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A The welding unit ~~(27)~~ according to claim 1, ~~wherein the first welding torch (10) comprises~~ further comprising a WIG/MAG welding torch.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A The welding unit ~~(27)~~ according to claim 1, ~~wherein the first welding torch (10) comprises~~ further comprising a WIG welding torch.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A The welding unit ~~(27)~~ according to claim 1, ~~wherein the first welding torch (10) comprises~~ further comprising a plasma burner.

Claims 5-6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A The welding unit ~~(27)~~ according to claim 1, wherein the first welding torch ~~(10)~~ precedes the second welding torch ~~(35)~~ in a welding direction.

Claims 8-9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A The welding unit ~~(27)~~ according to claim 1, wherein the first and second welding torches ~~(10, 35)~~ comprise a common gas nozzle ~~(37)~~.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A The welding unit ~~(27)~~ according to claim 7, wherein the first and second welding torches ~~(10, 35)~~ of the welding torch unit ~~(29)~~ are laterally offset relative to one another in the welding direction.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A The welding unit ~~(27)~~ according to claim 1, wherein the first and second welding wires ~~(13, 32)~~ comprise different materials.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A The welding unit ~~(27)~~ according to claim 1, wherein the first and second welding wires ~~(13, 32)~~ have different diameters.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A welding method comprising the steps of:

- (a) carrying out a first welding process;
- (b) carrying out a second welding process; and

(c) synchronizing the first and second welding processes in time;

wherein the first welding process comprises a cold-metal transfer welding process, wherein a consumable welding wire is moved forward and backward, and wherein the second welding process comprises a cold metal transfer process; and

wherein only one current source supplies energy for conducting the first and second welding processes ~~or a laser welding process.~~

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The welding method according to claim 14, ~~wherein the second welding process comprises~~ further comprising a MIG/MAG welding process.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The welding method according to claim 14, ~~wherein the second welding process comprises~~ further comprising a WIG welding process.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The welding method according to claim 14, ~~wherein the second welding process comprises~~ further comprising a plasma welding process.

Claims 18-19 (Canceled).

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A The welding method according to claim 14, wherein the cold-metal transfer welding process follows the second welding process in a welding direction.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): A The welding method according to claim 14, wherein at least the first and second welding processes use consumable welding wires and are temporally synchronized in a manner that the droplet detachments from the welding wires of the first and second welding processes take place simultaneously.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A The welding method according to claim 14, wherein at least the first and second welding processes use melting welding wires and are temporally synchronized in a manner that the droplet detachment from the welding wire of one of the first and second welding processes takes place in a manner temporally offset relative to the droplet detachment of the other of the first and second welding processes.

Claim 23 (New): The welding unit according to claim 1, further comprising a laser unit.